

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 004089
ORIGIN DOTE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-06 EB-07 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07
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DRAFTED BY DOT/TPI-42:MALLEN
APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:JWILKINSON
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-----080512Z 111199 /12

R 072300Z JAN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, ETRN, UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT (05.00)

REFS: (A) STATE 301149 (B) MOSCOW 19216 (C) MOSCOW 18110
(D) MOSCOW 00036

1. ISHCHENKO, SCST, SENT THE FOLLOWING TELEX TO RAMUNDO
DATED DECEMBER 28, 1976:

QTE: RE YOUR TELEX DECEMBER 10 IT IS SUGGESTED THAT CHANGES
IN THE LIST OF PRIORITIES BE DISCUSSED WHEN WE MEET DURING
THE FORTHCOMING COMMITTEE SESSION. TAKING THIS OPPORTUNITY
I'D LIKE TO REMIND YOU THAT SOVIET SIDE HASN'T YET RECEIVED
THE PROFESSIONAL /SIC/ LIST FOR THE EXCHANGE OF TRAINEES.
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NEITHER HAVE WE RECEIVED INFORMATION WHETHER AMERICAN SIDE
DISPLAYS ANY INTEREST IN SUCH AN EXCHANGE. AT OUR MEETING
IN WASHINGTON YOU CONFIRMED THAT AMERICAN SIDE WAS PREPARED
TO HOLD THE SESSION ANY TIME. WE HAVE SO FAR HAD NO
RESPONSE FROM YOU IF SESSION COULD TAKE PLACE IN MID-MARCH
1977. NO REPLY IS RECEIVED TO THE QUESTIONS MR. F. FULTON
(MATERIAL TRANSPORTATION BUREAU) WAS ASKED AT THE MEETING

IN SCST. WE ARE STILL UNAWARE OF THE US SIDE'S REACTION
WHETHER MEETING OF EXPERTS ON HAZARDOUS MATERIAL
TRANSPORTATION COULD BE HELD. UNQTE.

2. DOT BELIEVES THAT IN VIEW OF SUBSTANCE AND TONE OF
ISHCHENKO'S TELEX, RAMUNDO'S RESPONSE (PARA 3 BELOW)
SHOULD BE COPIED TO AYKAZIAN AND DISCUSSED WITH HIM.

3. REQUEST SCIOFF PASS FOLLOWING REPLY TO ISHCHENKO:

05.00 JANUARY 6, 1977

V. Y. ISHCHENKO
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, USSR SECTION
US-USSR JOINT COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

YOUR TELEX OF DECEMBER 28 COMES AS A SURPRISE ON ALL
POINTS COVERED AND INDICATES THE EXISTENCE OF CONSIDERABLE
CONFUSION WHICH SHOULD BE STRAIGHTENED OUT IF WE ARE TO
CONDUCT A WELL-COORDINATED AND BUSINESSLIKE PROGRAM.
(A) MY TELEX OF DECEMBER 10 AROSE FROM OUR EMBASSY'S
REPORT THAT ON DECEMBER 8 DEPUTY CHAIRMAN ALEKSENKO
AGREED TO RESTORE THE SUBJECT OF CIVIL AVIATION ACCIDENT
INVESTIGATION TO THE PRIORITY LIST IF WE MADE A FORMAL
PROPOSAL FOR THE PURPOSE. THE TELEX WAS THE PROPOSAL.
WE DO NOT SEE ANY SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE IN THIS CASE WHICH
REQUIRES THE ATTENTION OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE. PLEASE
ADVISE WHETHER WE CAN EXPECT SOVIET APPROVAL AS AGREED,
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OR WHETHER THE AGREEMENT HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN. IF THERE
IS ANY SUBSTANTIVE REASON FOR DISCUSSING THIS MINOR
MATTER IN THE JOINT COMMITTEE, PLEASE ADVISE ME OF THE
NATURE OF THE ISSUE INVOLVED; (B) ON THE MATTER OF
EXCHANGES OF SPECIALISTS, I MADE IT CLEAR DURING OUR JUNE
MEETING THAT FUNDING AND STAFFING PROBLEMS ON THE U.S.
SIDE WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT INTEREST IN THESE EXCHANGES.
I UNDERTOOK TO FIND OUT WHAT THE POSSIBILITIES MIGHT BE.
THE AGENCIES CONCERNED COULD NOT RESPOND UNTIL THE
NEW FISCAL YEAR COMMENCED IN OCTOBER AND THE ELECTION
RESULTS WERE KNOWN. NOW THAT WE ARE IN A TRANSITION
PERIOD BETWEEN ADMINISTRATIONS, THERE WILL BE AN
ADDITIONAL DELAY. OF COURSE, EACH WORKING GROUP ON THE
U.S. SIDE WILL BE PREPARED TO ADDRESS THE EXCHANGES

ISSUE BY THE TIME THE JOINT COMMITTEE MEETS; (C) AS TO THE
TIMING OF THE NEXT JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING, MY STATEMENT
DURING YOUR VISIT HERE WAS THAT THE MEETING COULD BE HELD
ANY TIME IN NOVEMBER OR DECEMBER. WE WILL REPLY TO YOUR

PROPOSAL FOR A MEETING IN MID-MARCH AS SOON AS POSSIBLE,

BUT THERE IS NO WAY OF DOING THIS UNTIL THE OFFICIALS OF
THE NEW ADMINISTRATION WHO WOULD BE CONCERNED WITH SUCH
A MEETING ARE IN PLACE AND HAVE TIME TO EXAMINE THE
PROPOSAL. TO ASSURE UNDERSTANDING ON THIS POINT, SEVERAL
WEEKS AGO I ASKED MR. YEZHOF OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN
WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS IT WITH YOU DURING HIS CURRENT HOME
LEAVE; (D) IN THE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AREA, MR. FULTON
BRIEFED US FULLY ON HIS DISCUSSIONS LAST OCTOBER IN
MOSCOW. WE VIEWED THIS AS THE MEETING OF EXPERTS TO WHICH
YOU REFER. WE WERE PLEASED THAT THE SPECIALISTS OF BOTH
SIDES AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO THEIR SUPERIORS THAT THE
JOINT COMMITTEE ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP. ON OUR SIDE,
WE ARE NOW AWAITING A DECISION ON THIS RECOMMENDATION
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF DOT'S MATERIALS TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU, BUT THIS DECISION IS ALSO DELAYED BY THE CHANGE
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OF ADMINISTRATION.

HAPPY NEW YEAR.

BERNARD A. RAMUNDO
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, US SECTION
US-USSR JOINT COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
KISSINGER

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